



# CORRECTIONS CONNECTION

Official Newsletter of the Louisville Metropolitan Department of Corrections

Volume 1, No.19 — December 2009

## Director's Message



It has been an interesting and dynamic year at the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections and as we wrap up 2009, I want to thank all of you for your hard work and dedication.

We have met and achieved a number of big goals this year such as improving sanitation, tightening security, adding more staff interaction with the inmate population and working to alleviate overcrowding. Other changes include a new and working magnetometer on the grill and modifications to inmate property collection at the time of booking, all designed to improve perimeter security.

Outsiders who visit or tour the jail have consistently remarked on the cleanliness of the facility. Improved sanitation not only makes for a better work environment, in a jail setting it is critical to the safety and welfare of both the staff and inmates. Special thanks to Lt. Chris Dobson who has spearheaded the sanitation effort and done a terrific job.

As we move forward into the New Year we'll implement a number of new programs or procedures, many of which are already underway. We will add Day Reporting, GPS Tracking for HIP, see an improved Inmate Management System and add other improved systems to update our operations and improve efficiency. There's a lot of work to be done and we'll be counting on each of you to help do it.

We kick off 2010 with a new management team in place. Deputy Director Dwayne Clark, Deputy Director Kathy Birmingham, Major Cathy Butler and myself are prepared to take a team management approach in working with Captains, Lieutenants and the line staff to face the challenges that face the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections.

Again, thanks to all of you for the very good job you do. And Happy New Year!



### ***Plaque Presented On Behalf of Metro Corrections***

Director Mark Bolton presented a plaque to Lexington-Fayette County Detention Center Director Ron Bishop in November thanking him for support and assistance.

Fayette County set up several tours for Metro Corrections staff allowing them to view some of the concepts and principles of a Direct Supervision facility. This allowed staff to bring back some of those ideas and implement our own Interactive Supervision approach which requires officers to go into inmate dorms and interact or "walk and talk" with inmates. The interactive approach improves the overall security of the facility, addresses sanitation issues the spot, identifies physical plant deficiencies and improves the overall turn around time on facility repairs.

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## New Deputy Director Appointed In October

Kathy Bingham became the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections newest Deputy Director October 19th.

She was sworn in by Mayor Jerry Abramson in a small ceremony at Metro Hall.

Deputy Director Bingham has nearly



*Mayor Jerry Abramson administers the Oath of Office to Deputy Director Kathy Bingham.*

30 years experience in the Corrections field, working in both jails and prisons. She got her start as a Corrections Officer at the Kentucky Correctional Institute for Women and worked her way up through the ranks, becoming Deputy Warden at Luther Luckett before retiring from State Corrections in 2002.

Ms. Bingham was hired as Criminal Justice Supervisor at Metro Corrections in 2006.



## New Major To Be Sworn in January 4th

Lt. Cathy Butler has been promoted to Major and will assume her new duties January 4th.

Butler has spent 24 years with the department, beginning as an officer after graduating from Academy #28 in 1985. She mostly recently worked as Area Coordinator of the ID Lab.



## Corrections Newest Sergeants



*Chris Johnston, Wayne Mumford, Jason Logsdon and David Temple are Metro Corrections newest Sergeants. The four were promoted to Sergeant earlier this month. All are doing well and "adjusting" to the midnight shift. Congratulations!*

## Academy # 101 Graduation



*The Louisville Metro Department of Corrections celebrated the graduation of its largest class in nine years with Academy #101 in late November. Twenty-two men and women joined the Department as new officers.*

## Academy #101

Mustafa Al-Amin  
Dustin Barlow  
Donald Bradley  
David Briscoe  
James Buchanan  
Joe Castellano  
Christina Easton  
Patricia Ender  
Charles Ennis  
Cortez Ernest

Robert Hamilton  
Amanda Hess  
Michael Hickey  
Jason McNeil  
Timothy Mitchell  
Alexander Morton  
Michael Ostertag  
Daniel Santiago  
Nicholas Spaulding  
Stephen Stallard

## Training Academy Reaccreditation

The Training Academy marked a major accomplishment in November as it passed a national audit and was given a nearly perfect score for reaccreditation.

Two auditors spent several days at the Academy talking to instructors, reviewing lesson plans and going through files. One of them, a former Training Academy Director for the state of Arkansas, said the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections Training Academy was one of the top three he's visited in the country.

*Please send any comments or suggestions regarding this newsletter to Pam Windsor at:*

*Pam.Windsor@louisvilleky.gov*



## Employees and Supervisors of the Month

**October 2009**



Sgt. Ramonda Covington  
Supervisor of the Month



Officer Yvonne Mason  
Employee of the Month

## Bidding Farewell to Retirees



Weaver started at Corrections in 1989.

**Officer Kevin Weaver**

Best wishes also to **Sgt. Ernest Jackson** who retired after slightly more than 20 years with Metro Corrections.  
(No photo available)



**Denise Fitzpatrick**

Fitzpatrick started with  
the Department in  
1987.



Vandiver began working  
at the jail in 1999.

**Officer Noie Vandiver**



Captain Rick Williams  
Supervisor of the Month



Arrica Spearman  
Employee of the Month



**Captain Rick Williams**

A special farewell to Captain Rick Williams as he celebrated the end of his 20 years at Corrections this month. Members of his 3 to 11 shift donated money for a special plaque in his honor. The plaque was presented at roll call and included a LMDC patch, Captain's bars, a special dedication and signatures from those on the shift.

Please submit all recommendations for Employee or Supervisor of the month to Wes Stover.



## SORT/CIT Hostage Scenario

To improve training, consistency and their ability to mesh their skills and work together, SORT and CIT had In-Service Training together this year. Two weeks were set aside to accommodate everyone on both teams.

Both SORT and CIT had their own team-specific training, as well as some “cross-training” that allowed them insight into the special skills and operational approaches of the other. This is extremely beneficial because in the event of a major situation, both SORT and CIT will be working together to resolve it.



The week culminated with a “hostage scenario” training exercise. In the scenario, inmates (played by Corrections officers) grabbed hostages and “took over” the 3rd Floor of LMPD. The teams were quickly activated. SORT and Special Weapons set up a



Tactical Command Center on the 5th Floor of the New Jail while CIT set up a command post in the 2nd Floor Conference Room.

SORT secured the perimeter, CIT prepared for hostage negotiations



and Special Weapons geared up to act as a last resort if less lethal methods were not enough to resolve the situation.

The teams worked to gather intel-



ligence information through conversations with inmates, debriefs of hostages, etc, and in the end, when the inmates refused to cooperate, the Special Weapons teams did have to go in and take back control of the facility.

The exercise turned out to be an incredibly valuable training tool.

## Corrections CIT Assists Beattyville

The Louisville Metro Department of Corrections also helped another facility organize its own CIT and set up a joint training exercise with that facility’s SORT team.

Recently, Sgt. Jennifer Jones taught CIT Training for Corrections Corporation of America’s Beattyville Adjustment Center in Lee County. After helping train their CIT, Jones pulled in members of Metro Corrections SORT



Beattyville Adjustment Center in Lee County



Team (Captain Williams, Lt. Norris, Sgt Gilbert and Sgt. Angellini) to set up two four hour scenario at



Beattyville to allow their CIT and SORT teams to train together.



Corrections staff did some role playing as inmates to assist with the scenario. The training went very well.

## Happy 25th Anniversary to SORT

Metro Corrections SORT (which was also previously called CERT) marked its 25th Anniversary in 2009. Thanks to all who have served on the team over the years for your service, dedication and willingness to undergo the extra training required to handle a job that is critical to our jail operation.



## This Year's Silent Auction

Our annual Silent Auction was a tremendous success this year and as always, a lot of fun.

Thanks to many of you we had quite an assortment of items this year. Some of you really pounded the pavement in getting out and getting different businesses and individuals to donate. We are so grateful as we couldn't have done it without you.

We really appreciate everyone who took time to come through and check out the items for bid during the 24 hours we were open. So

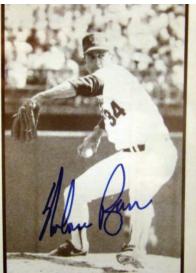
many of you were very generous in your bids and

some of you were able to walk away with some terrific items at some great prices.

This is one of our annual fund-raisers to support the Coat-A-Kid project and again, we are so grateful to everyone who supported the project.

While many of you came together to help out and make this work, there are several people who went above and beyond to bring this year's auction together. Special thanks, as always to Sandy Northington who can take stacks of unrelated items and

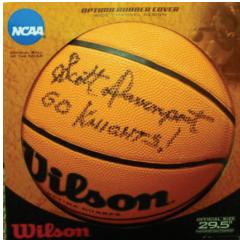
bring them together in an awesome Silent Auction display.



Thanks to Officer Jerry Bolton who collected item after item after item this year. Thanks also to Sgt. Larry Bisson, Lt. Norman Norris, Lt. Martin Baker and Ray Scott for securing numerous donations. And to everyone else who collected or donated anything—please accept our *very special thanks*.



*Also, thanks to Canteen for coffee, snacks and refreshments during the auction.*



## Coat-A-Kid Shopping Trip

On Tuesday, December 15th we made our annual Christmas shopping trip to Meijer with the kids from Roosevelt Perry Elementary School.

We chose Roosevelt four years ago because of the high number of low-income families whose kids attend.



Each child arrives with a list of sizes and we spend the next hour or two shopping for new coats, clothing items, shoes and at least one toy.



Thanks *so much* to those who volunteered their valuable time to make Christmas special for children who might otherwise go without.